

Org-Type	Non-Profit-based		
Lead	San Diego Science Alliance	PoC	Don Whisman
PoC-Phone	858.292.3854	PoC-Email	dwhisman@sdcoe.net
Address	6401 Linda Vista Road		
URL	www.sdsa.org		
Service-Region	San Diego County		
Type	Professional Development for Teachers Resources		
Subjects	General Science Biology Physics Earth Science Environmental Science Engineering Robotics Technology		
Level	Middle School (5-8th grade)		
Other-Objectives	The goal of MSSELI is to identify lead science teachers from San Diego City and County middle schools. Once identified, these teachers participate in an intensive summer and academic year professional development program focused on science content, leadership strategies, and collaboration with area public and private scientific institutions.		
Served-per-Year	30	Demographics	
Content	the work of MSSELI is organized around building middle school science teacher capacity in 1) Analyzing Instructional Materials, 2) Elements of Effective Instruction, 3) Improving Student Achievement, and 4) Curriculum Leadership. These four elements provide the foundation for the organization of professional learning that takes place during the 40-hour "Summer Leadership Academy" and the "Collaborative Lesson Studies" that take place during the academic year. Planning and implementation of the program is conducted by science educators, administrators, and instructional leaders from the San Diego County Office of Education, San Diego Unified School District, and other school districts in the region. This team has changed and grown over the life of the program to include individuals with expertise in instructional technologies, science content, and peer coaching from within the ranks of MSSELI.		
Outcomes	MSSELI fellows are deployed to middle schools in the region to lead or participate in Collaborative Lesson Studies (CLS). This process involves collaborative planning and delivering a science lesson with specific intended student outcomes . Focusing on intended student outcomes in a three-day CLS engages teachers in the most important professional dialog; How can we be sure that students are understanding and applying the science content? Research shows that teacher participation in lesson studies results in higher student gains in content knowledge in complex coursework . In the case of middle school science classrooms it is essential to assure that students are "getting it" and that teachers are identifying mechanisms to effectively engage all learners. Through the "deprivatization" of practice teacher collaborators discuss deeply the methods they are using to convey content knowledge and refine it for more effective instruction. MSSELI participants report that the Collaborative Lesson Study experience has been transformational for their instructional practice.		
Started	2004	Funded-Through	2010
Length	Ongoing	Cost	\$150K @ year
Primary-Funding	Foundation	Primary-\$	
Materials			
Other-Funding			
How-Assessed	External evaluation		
Best-Practice-Why	MSSELI has been recognized in "What's Working: A Guide to Effective Math and Science Education in San Diego County" for building teacher capacity. Teachers report that the Lesson Study experience is transformational in their teaching practice		
Promising-Practice			
Sponsor	Sponsor-Org		
Sponsor-Phone	Sponsor-Email		
Other-Orgs	San Diego County Office of Education		